

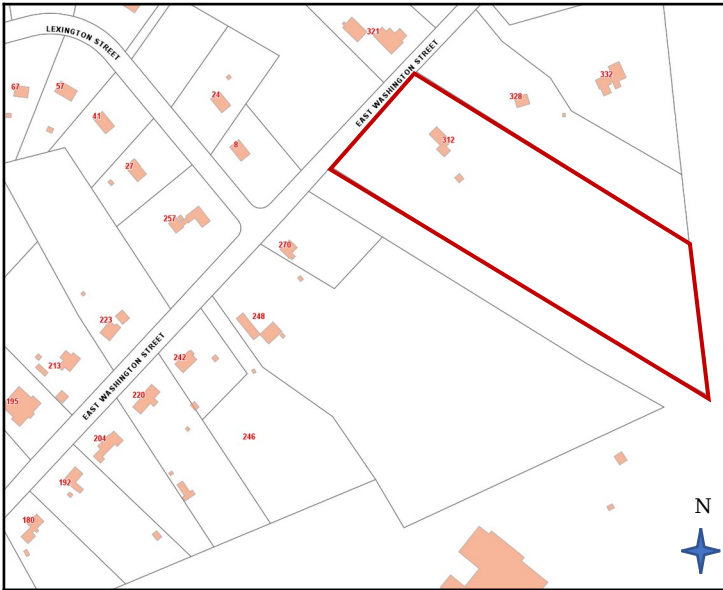
FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL
COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Photograph



Locus Map



Recorded by: Lara Kritzer, JM Goldson
community preservation + planning

Organization: Town of Hanson Historical
Commission

Date (*month / year*): June 2018

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form
Number

99-0-12-0

Hanover

HNS.198

Town/City: Hanson

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Address: 312 East Washington Street

Historic Name: Julius Josselyn House

Uses: Present: Single-Family Dwelling

Original: Carpenter Shop

Date of Construction: ca.1837

Source: White's History, Plan 5 No. 16, Page
84

Style/Form: Altered/No Style

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Concrete

Wall/Trim: Wood Clapboard/Wood

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Prefabricated wood garden shed located behind
the house to the southeast

Major Alterations (*with dates*): Concrete
foundation, projecting entrance staircase and
decks on the north and east facades, and vinyl
replacement windows and door

Condition: Fair

Moved: no ☐ yes ☒ **Date:**

ca. 1837

Acreage: 7.0 Acres

Setting: Located on one of Hanson's main
thoroughfares in an area of predominantly single-
family homes ranging from early eighteenth
century farmhouses to late twentieth century
suburban development on large lots which
includes grass lawns and numerous mature trees,
bushes, and other vegetation.

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☐ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

This house is a building in three parts. The largest section is a two-story, gable-end roof building with an open porch and one story addition along its south façade which sits in front of a slightly lower, also gable-end roofed two-story structure with a tall one-story gable roofed building attached to its south façade. This shorter building is presumably the original, ca. 1830 carpenter's shop that was moved to the site in 1837 and expanded over time into the current single family home. The building has wood clapboard siding and trim, including narrow cornerboards, and asphalt shingled roofs. A single, large rectangular brick chimney projects out of the south slope of the two-story section of the house at the break between the two structures. The original double hung windows have all been replaced with vinyl one-over-one replacement windows.

The house faces west towards the street and is set well back from the road. The gable-end façade of the two-story structure has a slightly overhanging roof edge finished in wood trimmed eaves and soffits with minimal returns at each corner. The gable facades of the front half of the two-story structure also have prominent wood eaves which are not found elsewhere on the building as both the rear two-story section and the one-story section have lower, narrower eaves. At the center of the gable-end a large six-pane replacement window is topped with a tall, pointed wooden fan detail. The first and second floor windows are slightly off center from the gable-end window with one window in the left corner and one to the right of center on each floor. The entrance is located in the right corner of the façade within a wide original wood entrance surround. The top edge of the frame projects out over a wide wood frieze with wide wood trim boards running along each side that extend into the window to the left and the cornerboard to the right. The entrance door at the center of the frame is a fiberglass replacement and the sidelights to either side appear to be later replacements as well. The door opens onto a low cement stoop leading to a brick walkway.

On the north façade, the building itself is simply detailed and has a row of double hung windows on each floor, with the windows in the rearmost section slightly smaller than those in the front half of the two-story structure. At the center of the façade, a door leads out onto a tall, stained wood deck which projects out from the second floor of the building. The deck has tall wood railings with square balusters that surround the deck and run down the staircase on its north façade. The stairs turn to the east and lead to a large deck at the rear of the house.

On the south façade of the two-story structure, an open porch in the southwest corner of the building has a low hip roof that projects out slightly over a flat wood cornice with square columns and pilasters at the corners. A low wood railing with square balusters runs between the posts. An opening at the center of the porch is accessed by a set of cement steps. To the right of the porch entrance, the porch has been enclosed with wood clapboard siding. A double hung window faces into the porch space and a three-part casement window is located on the infilled south façade. Above the porch, three double hung windows are located in the front half of the building and one smaller double hung window is located in the rearmost section above the shed roof of the one-story section's porch.

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The one-story structure has a tall, steeply pitched gable roof that turns into a lower pitched shed roof on its west façade that extends over the open porch. The porch has the same low wood railings seen on the south façade porch on the two-story section, with a square post at the southwest corner and a set of wide wood steps leading from the south side of the porch to the driveway. A second entrance and two large double hung windows are located within the porch. Above, two large skylights are positioned on the west slope of the roof. On its south façade, a small square window is located in the gable end above a low, shed roofed bumpout for a gas fired fireplace.

The house sits well back from the street on a relatively flat lot behind a large grass lawn dotted with mature trees and bushes. Planting beds created by new, low stone retaining walls surround the north, west, and south facades of the house and are filled with small evergreen bushes and plantings. A circular gravel driveway leads to a parking area to the south. Behind the parking area is a small, prefabricated wood garden shed.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

According to White's History of Hanson, the structure at 312 East Washington Street was originally a carpenter shop on Liberty Street near the former home of John Barker which was purchased and relocated to its current site. White lists Charles Howland(1809-1866)¹ as a carpenter who lived opposite the John Barker place in 1830 and thought that it was possible that the building had been his shop before it was moved. However, Charles Howland is listed as a moulder in the local ironworks according to the 1865 state census and his 1866 death record. The 1850 U.S. Census identified him as a "furnaceman," possibly at the nail (later tack) works where Liberty Street crosses Indian Head Brook. Although White does not describe the building before its move, it is likely that the original structure consisted of only the one-story section of the existing house when it was purchased by Julius Josselyn.

White's History states that the structure was moved to its present location in 1837 and remodeled into a dwelling by Julius Josselyn (1813-1901) for his own use, noting that it "has been occupied by the family ever since."² It is likely that the two-story gable-end section of the house was added at this time. According to Massachusetts' Vital Records, Julius was the son of his father's second marriage. Julius' father, Eleazer, married Alice Wadsworth (neè Howland) in 1807 after his first wife, Bethiah (neè Bourne), died in 1806. Eleazer (1788-1868) was a farmer. The Massachusetts Birth, Marriage and Death Records state that Julius, a shoemaker, married Georgiana M.W. Oldham (1830-1895) in 1848. Both the 1856 Walling Map and 1879 Richards Atlas list "J. Josselyn" as the owner in residence. Their daughter, Alice, was living in the house when Joseph White compiled his *History of Hanson* in the 1930s.

Alice P. Josselyn (1858-1951) first married Henry O. Torrey, a blacksmith, in 1877. According to the 1880 census, they lived with her parents, Julius and Georgiana. At this time, Julius is listed as a carpenter. The 1903 *Topographic Atlas of Plymouth County*, the property is listed under "Mrs. A. P. Torrey." For the first time, the building is shown as an L shaped structure surrounded by smaller outbuildings. The Massachusetts Marriage Records announce her marriage to Lewis H Hammond, a mason, in 1908. This was a second marriage for both. The 1910 U.S. Census lists Lewis H. Hammond as a farmer. Lewis died in November 1927. Alice lived in the house until her death in 1951. Upon her death, she left the property to Elmer J Beaulieu, a physician, who lived there with his wife, Anna.³

¹ <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/86780550>

² White, Page 84

³ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 2154, Page 178

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Elmer sold the property to Welton Davison in 1954.⁴ Welton lived there with his wife, Elinor, before retiring to Florida in 1989.⁵ They gave the house to their son, Bruce Davison, and his first wife, Cheryl Davison, in 1993.⁶ Bruce continues to own and reside in the house with his second wife, Kathleen.⁷

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⁴ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 2373, Page 147

⁵ <https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/tcpalm/obituary.aspx?n=elinor-h-davison&pid=124628585>

⁶ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 11837, Page 181 and Book 14042, Page 156

⁷ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 30244, Page 257

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